

### **REMARKS**

The Official Action rejects independent Claims 16 and 26 as being unpatentable based on a combination of the disclosures in the previously cited Yen and Tetaka patents. Applicants respectfully disagree with these rejections.

In particular, Claim 16 recites a method for manufacturing a USB electronic key from a dielectric backing film which carries a microcircuit, and Claim 26 recites a method for manufacturing a USB electronic key from an insulating substrate which carries a microcircuit. By contrast, the Yen patent makes no mention of a dielectric backing film or an insulating substrate.

The Official Action evidently relies on the disclosure in the Tetaka patent concerning a cutting step, even though neither of the methods recited in Claims 16 and 26 include a cutting step. In any event, the Tetaka patent does not disclose a dielectric backing film or an insulating substrate either. For example, Tetaka does not disclose that the tape illustrated in Fig. 173A is a dielectric backing film or an insulating substrate.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the methods recited in independent Claims 16 and 26 are patentable over the disclosures in the Yen and Tetaka patents. Withdrawal of the rejections of those claims is therefore respectfully requested.

The dependent claims define additional distinguishing aspects associated with the present invention. These claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable independent claims and so a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features recited in these dependent claims is not presented

at this time. Applicant reserves the right to present such arguments later during prosecution or on appeal.

Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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